

## BAY LINE STEAMER VIRGINIA BURNED

Passengers Leap Into Chesapeake Bay to Escape the Flames.

### TWO LIFEBOATS CAPSIZE

Several, Including Captain, Are Injured—Three Negroes of the Crew Are Missing.

BALTIMORE, May 24.—Several of the 24 passengers on the old Bay Line steamer Virginia, burned at 1 o'clock this morning in Chesapeake Bay off the mouth of the Potomac River, were injured, but none lost their lives. Not a few had narrow escapes.

Many thrilling rescues were made by members of the crew of the burning vessel and by officers and members of the crew of the Chesapeake liner City of Norfolk, which was close to the Virginia when the fire started and stood by her until the last.

Mrs. E. L. Newberry of Baltimore and Capt. W. G. Lane of the Virginia were the most seriously injured. Mrs. Newberry was hurt when a lifeboat fell and Capt. Lane is suffering from severe burns.

Other injured ones are in the Baltimore hospital, as follows:

Miss Lillian Jones, back injured; Miss Mary Riner, Newport News, Va., body bruised; Arthur Whittey, Newberry, Va., severely shocked; Mack Williams, colored, body bruised.

The Virginia was bound from Baltimore to Old Point Comfort and Norfolk, Va. She had on board in addition to 158 passengers, a crew of eighty-two officers and men. All the crew have been accounted for except three negro deckhands.

Capt. Walter Lane, master of the old Bay liner, stayed with his boat to the last. It was due to him and others on board who acted the part of heroes that no passengers were lost.

Capt. Lane, Major C. J. Davidson of Camp Mead, who was going to Newport News to meet a brother officer coming in with one of the units from France, and a laborer were the last persons to quit the steamship.

These three men, each of whom had done his part to save the lives of others, stayed until the fire got so hot that their hands and faces were blistered. Then they leaped into the water.

Mr. Davidson was picked up by a lifeboat and taken to the steamship Florida, a sister ship. Finding that the Florida was bound for Baltimore, he got to the shore and went over to the City of Norfolk.

Within fifteen minutes after the blaze burst forth on the Virginia the men on the City of Norfolk, who were doing all in their power to rescue those on the burning vessel, could hear the cries for help floating up to them from persons in the water. The boats of the two vessels, guided by the cries of those who, with lifebelts around them, were battling with the water, picked up all they could find.

Those who witnessed the burning of the steamer were impressed by the quickness with which it was consumed. By 1:30 o'clock the Virginia was a blackened and smoking hulk, burned right down to the waterline.

The weather was clear and the sea calm, otherwise the rescuers would have been able to do but little toward saving those who had jumped into the water. Two lifeboats filled with passengers capsize. One of the boats turned over immediately after leaving the Virginia, and another a short distance from the Florida.

Being forced to leave the ship in such a hurry, passengers left their clothes, jewelry, money and other valuables behind, and all were lost.

The company's officials have as yet been unable to learn the cause of the fire. They do not think a negro arrested at Norfolk had anything to do with it.

### CHIEF OF SEA SCOUTS ESCAPES IN PAJAMAS

James A. Wilder Gives Graphic Account of Fire.

James A. Wilder, chief sea scout of the Boy Scouts of America, who was a passenger on the Virginia, came into Manhattan yesterday afternoon wearing only a coat and trousers over his pajamas. He had lost his baggage when the Virginia came to grief.

"If it were not for the magnificent seamanship of the bluejackets who manned the rescue boats," said Mr. Wilder, "there would have been a heavy loss of life. As it was, everybody got away safely so far as I know except two or three stokers."

"Fortunately when misfortune overtook us we were at a spot where we were scheduled to meet the upbound boat, and it is owing to this fact and the splendid work of Commander Pigeon, Lieut. Williams and their sailors from the Florida that the death toll is not a lengthy one. The water was so rough that two boats loaded with passengers capsize after pulling away from the burning Virginia. But the Florida's sailors went to work fast and saved the passengers who were floundering in the waves."

The Virginia, continued Mr. Wilder, had left Baltimore at 6:30 o'clock Friday evening well filled with passengers, including a number of negroes, who were quartered forward. The boat was making fast time until at 1:30 o'clock yesterday morning a fire alarm was sounded that brought half clothed passengers hurriedly to the decks. There was no confusion and almost no noise, according to Mr. Wilder.

"The fire started near the engine room," said Mr. Wilder, "and by the time I got on deck the Virginia was burning furiously amidships. Flames prevented the engineer from starting the pumps, so there was no time left to do except abandon ship immediately. By the light of the flames I could see a naval patrol boat near by and shortly thereafter a number of craft of various kinds raced toward us."

"The crew and officers of the Virginia behaved beautifully and so did the women aboard. As for the officers and sailors from the Florida, magnificent is the only word that describes their efficiency. All the passengers immediately were grouped forward and aft and the captain of the Virginia headed his ship in a direction that prevented the flames from blowing toward the bow or stern. And right away the seamen of the Florida and our own ship got all our passengers. I believe, safely aboard the Florida and the City of Baltimore. The Virginia burned so quickly that my face was scorched a bit before I was clear of the ship."

The draft of the Virginia was such, said Mr. Wilder, that it was out of the question to beach her. The rescue work took about an hour, at the end of which, Mr. Wilder said, the passengers all were headed safely toward either Baltimore or Norfolk. Mr. Wilder was taken to Baltimore, whence he came directly to Manhattan to report at the Boy Scout headquarters at 200 Fifth Avenue and to get some clothes.

over, this negro, Frank Shield, came by on the balcony above me. He called to some one I could not see: 'Come here, Ben. Here's a lady that's got to be saved!'

"That negro came down through the flames to where I lay on the lower deck and picked me up and carried me back to the upper deck. The flames were getting close to us when he jumped overboard and hung on to a raft for awhile. I can't say how long after when he and another negro, Ben Collins, put me aboard one of the lifeboats."

Mrs. Bowling, although in a rather serious condition on account of her age, will recover, it is believed.

Frank Shield was a cook on the Virginia, and Ben Collins, who is nearly 70 himself, was a waiter. Both were saved and brought to Norfolk this morning.

Reviewed by Consul  
Lads Send Letter to President of Far East Republic.

Boy Scout Troop 150, Manhattan, composed of Chinese boys of 9 to 15 years of age, was reviewed at the Fifth Avenue Building yesterday by Dr. Chiffen Tsui, Chinese Consul-General in this city, and Daniel Carter Beard, national scout commissioner. They then went to the street and by squads marched to a letter box at Madison Square, where they mailed a letter to the President of the Chinese Republic asking him to push along the Scout movement there. The operation was repeated twice for the benefit of some motion picture camera men.

"Through you, Mr. President," said the letter, "may we send the good wishes of the Boy Scouts of America to the youth of China with sincere hope and earnest prayer for its prosperity. May the traditional friendship of China and America be more firmly cemented and may the brotherhood of the world become a reality."

Alfred Lee, troop master, then put his command through some mappy drills and the "parade" broke up, some of it heading for Chinatown.

## AMBROSIA and NECTAR

When Hebe was doing canteen service for the intellectuals that made Mount Olympus their meeting place she served them with nectar and Ambrosia. No doubt they were popular beverages with those she served. Hebe attained a historic name and there is no telling how much greater her fame might have been had she been able to serve

### WHITE ROCK GINGER ALE

We believe it to be the best drink of its kind. It is made with the unsurpassed mineral water *White Rock*

Any first class place will serve it.

over, this negro, Frank Shield, came by on the balcony above me. He called to some one I could not see: 'Come here, Ben. Here's a lady that's got to be saved!'

"That negro came down through the flames to where I lay on the lower deck and picked me up and carried me back to the upper deck. The flames were getting close to us when he jumped overboard and hung on to a raft for awhile. I can't say how long after when he and another negro, Ben Collins, put me aboard one of the lifeboats."

Mrs. Bowling, although in a rather serious condition on account of her age, will recover, it is believed.

Frank Shield was a cook on the Virginia, and Ben Collins, who is nearly 70 himself, was a waiter. Both were saved and brought to Norfolk this morning.

### REVIEWED BY CONSUL

Lads Send Letter to President of Far East Republic.

Boy Scout Troop 150, Manhattan, composed of Chinese boys of 9 to 15 years of age, was reviewed at the Fifth Avenue Building yesterday by Dr. Chiffen Tsui, Chinese Consul-General in this city, and Daniel Carter Beard, national scout commissioner. They then went to the street and by squads marched to a letter box at Madison Square, where they mailed a letter to the President of the Chinese Republic asking him to push along the Scout movement there. The operation was repeated twice for the benefit of some motion picture camera men.

"Through you, Mr. President," said the letter, "may we send the good wishes of the Boy Scouts of America to the youth of China with sincere hope and earnest prayer for its prosperity. May the traditional friendship of China and America be more firmly cemented and may the brotherhood of the world become a reality."

Alfred Lee, troop master, then put his command through some mappy drills and the "parade" broke up, some of it heading for Chinatown.

Just as I had given myself up, how-

time I got on deck the Virginia was burning furiously amidships. Flames prevented the engineer from starting the pumps, so there was no time left to do except abandon ship immediately. By the light of the flames I could see a naval patrol boat near by and shortly thereafter a number of craft of various kinds raced toward us."

"The crew and officers of the Virginia behaved beautifully and so did the women aboard. As for the officers and sailors from the Florida, magnificent is the only word that describes their efficiency. All the passengers immediately were grouped forward and aft and the captain of the Virginia headed his ship in a direction that prevented the flames from blowing toward the bow or stern. And right away the seamen of the Florida and our own ship got all our passengers. I believe, safely aboard the Florida and the City of Baltimore. The Virginia burned so quickly that my face was scorched a bit before I was clear of the ship."

The draft of the Virginia was such, said Mr. Wilder, that it was out of the question to beach her. The rescue work took about an hour, at the end of which, Mr. Wilder said, the passengers all were headed safely toward either Baltimore or Norfolk. Mr. Wilder was taken to Baltimore, whence he came directly to Manhattan to report at the Boy Scout headquarters at 200 Fifth Avenue and to get some clothes.

over, this negro, Frank Shield, came by on the balcony above me. He called to some one I could not see: 'Come here, Ben. Here's a lady that's got to be saved!'

"That negro came down through the flames to where I lay on the lower deck and picked me up and carried me back to the upper deck. The flames were getting close to us when he jumped overboard and hung on to a raft for awhile. I can't say how long after when he and another negro, Ben Collins, put me aboard one of the lifeboats."

Mrs. Bowling, although in a rather serious condition on account of her age, will recover, it is believed.

Frank Shield was a cook on the Virginia, and Ben Collins, who is nearly 70 himself, was a waiter. Both were saved and brought to Norfolk this morning.

Reviewed by Consul  
Lads Send Letter to President of Far East Republic.

Boy Scout Troop 150, Manhattan, composed of Chinese boys of 9 to 15 years of age, was reviewed at the Fifth Avenue Building yesterday by Dr. Chiffen Tsui, Chinese Consul-General in this city, and Daniel Carter Beard, national scout commissioner. They then went to the street and by squads marched to a letter box at Madison Square, where they mailed a letter to the President of the Chinese Republic asking him to push along the Scout movement there. The operation was repeated twice for the benefit of some motion picture camera men.

"Through you, Mr. President," said the letter, "may we send the good wishes of the Boy Scouts of America to the youth of China with sincere hope and earnest prayer for its prosperity. May the traditional friendship of China and America be more firmly cemented and may the brotherhood of the world become a reality."

Alfred Lee, troop master, then put his command through some mappy drills and the "parade" broke up, some of it heading for Chinatown.

Just as I had given myself up, how-

time I got on deck the Virginia was burning furiously amidships. Flames prevented the engineer from starting the pumps, so there was no time left to do except abandon ship immediately. By the light of the flames I could see a naval patrol boat near by and shortly thereafter a number of craft of various kinds raced toward us."

"The crew and officers of the Virginia behaved beautifully and so did the women aboard. As for the officers and sailors from the Florida, magnificent is the only word that describes their efficiency. All the passengers immediately were grouped forward and aft and the captain of the Virginia headed his ship in a direction that prevented the flames from blowing toward the bow or stern. And right away the seamen of the Florida and our own ship got all our passengers. I believe, safely aboard the Florida and the City of Baltimore. The Virginia burned so quickly that my face was scorched a bit before I was clear of the ship."

The draft of the Virginia was such, said Mr. Wilder, that it was out of the question to beach her. The rescue work took about an hour, at the end of which, Mr. Wilder said, the passengers all were headed safely toward either Baltimore or Norfolk. Mr. Wilder was taken to Baltimore, whence he came directly to Manhattan to report at the Boy Scout headquarters at 200 Fifth Avenue and to get some clothes.

over, this negro, Frank Shield, came by on the balcony above me. He called to some one I could not see: 'Come here, Ben. Here's a lady that's got to be saved!'

"That negro came down through the flames to where I lay on the lower deck and picked me up and carried me back to the upper deck. The flames were getting close to us when he jumped overboard and hung on to a raft for awhile. I can't say how long after when he and another negro, Ben Collins, put me aboard one of the lifeboats."

Mrs. Bowling, although in a rather serious condition on account of her age, will recover, it is believed.

Frank Shield was a cook on the Virginia, and Ben Collins, who is nearly 70 himself, was a waiter. Both were saved and brought to Norfolk this morning.

Reviewed by Consul  
Lads Send Letter to President of Far East Republic.

## POLYGAMY DOOMS TURKISH MANDATE

America Would Have to Recognize It or Else Wage Holy War.

### TENET OF MOHAMMEDANS

George M. Lamsa Says People Are Encouraged in Murder of Christians.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, May 24.—New compilations in the League of Nations plan to give the United States a mandate over Constantinople are now reported here. It develops that America either would have to endorse polygamy or prepare to devote American lives and money to the prosecution of a continual holy war against the followers of Mahomet. One of two alternatives would have to be followed and each admittedly has serious disadvantages. Diplomats believe that the mandate proposal is doomed in advance as a consequence.

The endorsement of polygamy by the United States and the use of American resources to develop it is regarded as the only practical plan because it is considered out of the question to reform the Turks. In this connection experts here on the Constantinople mandate problem emphasize the fact that to the Turk government is religion and any governmental reform is an attack on Mahomet. Furthermore, it is pointed out that any use of American resources in governmental reform would mean a holy war between the United States and all Mohammedans.

Cannot Convert by Mandate.

"It is very hard for the average American, whether he be statesman or otherwise, to understand the Turkish mind," said George M. Lamsa, an Assyrian authority here who believes that an ounce of prevention is worth more than a pound of cure.

Mr. Lamsa has spent much of his life under Turkish rule, taking part in their religious meetings. He would like to see the Turks converted by mandate or other means, but feels it his duty to warn America that Turks can be converted only by force of extermination and that this would imply continual holy wars necessitating the sacrifice of thousands of American lives.

"Americans must not compare Turkey with any other nation on earth," Mr. Lamsa continued, "for they are an entirely different set of people."

"For example, the Turkish people, in one sense, cannot be blamed for murdering Christians, for they are taught that it is their duty and that they must do this in order to gain everlasting life and to gain the reward of 300 women in heaven. Thus if the United States should attempt to stop the custom of murdering Christians, when it suits the Turkish religion to do so, this would simply mean a holy war."

"Every Mohammedan must take part in these holy wars. He has been taught that by killing seven Christians he will have his harem in heaven with 300 women. He likewise believes that if an American, for example, should kill him in battle his God will reward him with the 300 women. His thoughts run to women, more women and still more women, and his heaven of a plentiful supply of women is the great goal to which he will willingly give up his life."

"Appreciating this fact should give any American an idea of what would happen if the United States, under the mandatory power, attempted to limit the number of women in the harems or to preach against polygamy. The only way reforms under the League of Nations possibly could be impressed upon the Turks would be to pretend that native harems were to be established on earth and in heaven under the league's special auspices and that if the Turks responded to the reforms they might have a share in the new plans."

"No other sort of progress would interest the Turks because they believe that such progress comes from an evil power. A man in Turkey is not measured by his brains or his ability or his wealth, but by the number of women he has in his harem. A shikah must have at least from six to twelve women in his harem. This in fact is one of the main qualifications in order to be a shikah. The shikahs are the bishops or church authorities."

Large Army Would Be Needed.

The consensus here is that if the United States should assume a mandatory over Constantinople a considerable force of American troops now in Europe would be transferred to the military zone in Turkey. In considering a mandate for Armenia a few American residents with a nucleus of American officers to form a local militia have been spoken of, but the Constantinople problem is admittedly different.

There are experts now at the State Department here who understand just what conditions would have to be met by the United States under this mandatory system, and their advice is particularly valuable because it is not influenced by European desires respecting Turkey. It is understood, for example, that the British are not anxious to run Constantinople because trouble with the Mohammedans might cause difficulties in India for the British. There is a decided willingness, therefore, on the part of the British and other European nations to permit Uncle Sam to reform the Turk.

RECEPTION FOR FIGHTERS.

Sixth Assembly District to Honor Its Soldiers and Sailors.

Under the auspices of the Federal Club a reception is to be given Wednesday night by the residents of the Sixth Assembly district to show their appreciation of the soldiers, sailors and marines who entered the service from the district. Although the Federal Club is the regular Republican organization of the district and Samuel S. Koenig, head of the Republican county committee, is chairman, the reception committee is to be non-political. Harry A. Goidel is secretary of the committee.

The affair is to be held in the Lenox Assembly Rooms, 256 Second avenue. One hundred women have consented to act as hostesses. There will be an elaborate spread, an entertainment by professional talent, a concert by the Letter Carriers Band and talks by Col. Theodore Roosevelt, Lieut.-Col. Herbert Parsons, Gen. Alexander, who commands the Seventy-seventh Division, in which unit most of the men served, and Representative F. H. La Guardia. And after all this there will be dancing.

Invitations have been sent to some 600 men who represented the district in the war.

## NEW YORK PRIVATE ON NEW HONOR LIST

Two Dead Heroes Named for Distinguished Service Cross.

WASHINGTON, May 24.—A supplementary list of awards of the Distinguished Service Cross for heroism in action made public by the War Department to-day contained the following names:

Major E. N. Caldwell, Watertown, Wis.; Capt. Russell A. Schmidt, Council Bluffs, Iowa; First Lieut. John E. Douglas, Bessemer, Ala.; Second Lieut. Roscoe D. Haley, San Antonio, Tex.

Sergeants Elmer Evenson, Elkhorn, Wis.; James McGorley, Chippewa Falls, Wis.; Louis Witte, Wittenburg, Wis.; Harry E. Bayly, Tar River, Okla.; Louis C. Thedinger, Perry, Okla.; Fitzgerald Walden, Mead, Okla.; Chester A. Robert, Cleburne, Tex.

Corporals Arthur L. Stuckrad, Milwaukee, Wis.; Charles C. Kromer, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Corbett Benfield (deceased), Caddo, Okla.; Hiram F. Walter, Okemah, Okla.; Walter E. Bradford, St. Anthony, Idaho; Bugler Leon Jenart (deceased), Spring City, Pa.

Privates Samuel Shaskan, 71 West Twenty-third street, New York city; Mike Curti, Reno, Nev.; James Conway, Newburyport, Mass.; Henry W. Wetzel, Birnamwood, Wis.; Rudolph Socha, Milwaukee; Thomas Logus, Colvaine, Ireland; William H. Stemerling, The Peacocks, Minn.; Earl D. Norton, Guilford, Conn.

### IDENTIFIED AS BANK ROBBER.

Murderer in Tacoma Connected With Brooklyn Crime.

TACOMA, Wash., May 24.—Jay B. Allen, recently convicted here of the murder of a shipyard worker, was identified to-day as one of the holdup men who on December 13, 1918, shot and killed two tellers of the East Brooklyn Savings Bank, Brooklyn, N. Y., and escaped with \$15,000.

### CROATS ASK INDEPENDENCE.

Peasants Would Have Republic Under Italian Influence.

PARIS, May 24.—The Croatian peasant party, asserting the representation of 1,000,000 Croats, has sent an appeal to the Peace Conference through the Italian delegates demanding the creation of an independent Croatian, Slovenian and Dalmatian republic.

The appeal asks also that Italy take charge of their interests in Paris.

### Albanian Teachers Loyal.

PARIS, May 24.—The schoolmasters and schoolmistresses of upper Alsace in a conference at Strasbourg, the first since the French occupation, sent to President Poincaré a telegram assuring France of their loyalty.

## FRANCE USED GERMAN STEEL.

Obtained Through Switzerland.

Says "Vorwaerts" Writer.

Special correspondence to The Sun from the London Times service.

Copyright, 1919; all rights reserved.

LONDON, May 11.—Arthur Batarnus, in Vorwaerts of Berlin, accuses the German iron and steel industry of having supplied France with steel and iron for munitions during the war. He says for

the first two years of the war the influence of the ironmasters prevented restrictions on the export of steel, and during this period about a quarter of a million tons were exported monthly.

Nominally this was supposed to be for the consumption of neutrals, but it was well known there were no sufficient precautions taken in this respect. In September, 1918, the matter was so notorious the German Government asked the Swiss Government to arrange that none of the metals should be passed on to France and Italy.

Queen Quality  
BOOT SHOP

A Plainly Smart  
Opera Pump



\$6.50

With buckles, or without, this graceful model admirably fills the role of a dress pump.

It is made in Patent Coltskin or Gun Metal Calf, and has hand-turned soles and Louis XV. wood heels.

Novel buckles in large variety may be obtained from \$2.50 up.

Queen Quality Boot Shop  
32 and 34 West 34th Street  
Between Broadway and Fifth Avenue



The WEBER  
Louis XV  
GRAND PIANO

Unforgettably rich and mellow in tone, perfectly voiced, enduring in quality, the Weber Piano exemplifies the fine traditions of the last half century as well as the highest ideals of piano building of today.

The instrument illustrated here is the Weber Small Grand, installed in an exquisite mahogany case of Louis XV design.

Rarely, if ever, have high piano quality and artistic appearance been so happily combined as in this superb instrument.

The price of the Weber Louis XV Grand is \$1150.  
A beautiful Stock Louis XV Model is priced at \$950.

THE AEOLIAN COMPANY

Aeolian Hall in MANHATTAN 29 West 42nd Street  
Aeolian Hall in BROOKLYN 11 Flatbush Avenue  
Aeolian Hall in THE BRONX 367 East 149th Street  
Aeolian Hall in NEWARK 895 Broad Street



Hear  
Rachmaninoff

RECORDS TOMORROW

in  
The Ampico  
Studios

The musical critics are one in their high praise of Rachmaninoff and in the realization of the importance of his pianistic art—an art which has proved his rank as a pianist equal to his fame as a composer

The Records Rachmaninoff has made for

The AMPICO

Reproducing Piano

for which he plays exclusively, are replete with the same power and virtuosity that have won for him in a single season a place in the front ranks of the world's greatest pianists.

Not only Rachmaninoff, but Godowsky, Levitzki, Ornstein, Busoni, Carreno, Hofmann, Bauer, Samaroff, Hambourg, Leginska, Copeland, Gabrilowitsch, d'Albert, and a hundred or more pianists may be heard in your own home with the Ampico.

You are cordially invited to hear the Ampico reproduce the art of these great pianists.

Knabe Warerooms  
Fifth Avenue at Thirty-ninth St.

In your Ampico the beautiful pianoforte remains unchanged. No unsightly boxes mar the perfect lines of the modern instrument

HALL'S BEDDING  
The Standard of Quality  
for 90 years



The Imperial Edge  
Pure Horse Hair Mattress

is the highest development of quality bedding. Made in our own factories of carefully selected materials the Imperial Edge is built to give the utmost comfort. It carries our guarantee of durability and will prove in the long run the most economical investment in bedding you could make. Come and see for yourself at our retail store.

FRANK A. HALL & SONS  
Manufacturers of Beds and Bedding  
25 West 42nd St., New York City